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3. Consciousness of that *clamor* as concomitant of the act; 4. Repetition of that *clamor* to recall the act; 5. *Clamor* (root) defined by prefixes, suffixes, etc., to recall the act as localized in its results, its instruments, its agents, etc."—The little work is written in that clear and delightful style which so inherently characterizes the scientific productions of this eminent scholar, and must be of peculiar interest to every student of language.

The indefatigable worker, PROFESSOR L. CLÉDAT of the Faculté des lettres de Lyon, has added another volume to the list of his elementary works for the study of French. With in the past four years, his 'Grammaire élémentaire de la vieille langue française' (Paris: Garnier Frères), 'Morceaux choisis des auteurs français du moyen âge' 'La Chanson de Roland,' 'Petit Glossaire du vieux français,' 'Extraits de la chronique de Joinville,' have followed one another in rapid succession; and now comes the 'Nouvelle Grammaire historique du français' (in 18-Jésus, pp. 297) which, as the author tells us, "part . . . de la langue moderne pour remonter jusqu'aux origines. Je néglige les particularités de l'ancienne langue qui ont disparu sans laisser de traces . . . mais j'insiste sur l'explication historique de toutes les règles de la grammaire moderne."

In vol. ii, p. 94 of this journal, notice was given of the first part of an important and interesting work entitled: 'Franklin in France, etc.' The second part (a portly octavo volume of 480 pages) including "The Treaty of Peace and Franklin's Life till his Return," now lies before us, and deserves not a whit less praise than its predecessor. This volume is almost entirely composed of letters, selected from hitherto unpublished documents, which bear particularly on "the closing years of Franklin's residence in France." His personal relations with the DUC DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD, LAFAYETTE, MIRABEAU, MALESHERBES, VERGENNES and a host of other luminaries of French history, present an exceedingly vivid picture of Franklin's diplomatic methods and social standing in Paris, and throw light upon the sudden development of sympathy for America, that must be of interest to the student both of

French literature and French politics. The work is provided with a rare portrait-illustration of Franklin in his old age, with vignettes of such men as ROBERT MORRIS, LORD SHELburne, COUNT CAGLIOSTRO, CARDINAL DE ROHAN and of some of those mentioned above. It contains also a full index covering both volumes. (Boston: Roberts Brothers; price \$3.)

A useful little work of thirty-five octavo pages (Hamburg, Otto Meissner. Price, 1 mark) has reached us under the title: Die Phonetik im französischen und englischen Klassenunterricht, von DR. A. RAMBEAU, Professor am Wilhelm-Gymnasium in Hamburg. On the cover are noted: Lauttafeln für den französischen und englischen Klassenunterricht (Preis für alle vier Tafeln auf Papier, M. 4.), to which this text is intended by the author as a *Begleitschrift*. The French part covers twenty pages and is by far the best presentation of the subject of phonetics that we have seen for elementary instruction. It is clear, practical, without unnecessary details and easily used,—the result of six years' constant experience of an enthusiastic and successful teacher: were these phonetic charts placed in the hands of every French instructor in our country, the good results to be attained in a short time could hardly be estimated: an approximately correct pronunciation would soon be the chief pleasure of the learner.

PERSONAL.

DR. W. J. ALEXANDER has recently been appointed to the chair of English at the University of Toronto. This professorship is a new foundation; it is well endowed and one of the most important educational positions in Canada. Toronto is fortunate in having secured a scholar whose preparation has been so thorough and whose professional career has been so successful. DR. ALEXANDER is a Canadian and received his early training at the Hamilton Collegiate Institute. In 1875 he matriculated at the University of Toronto, winning two scholarships. In the following year he won the Gilchrist scholarship for Canada ranking fourth among six hundred and fifty-two

candidates from Great Britain and the Colonies. By the terms of the scholarship he became a student at the University of London, and was there graduated as Bachelor of Arts in 1877. After teaching two years in Charlottetown (Prince Edward's Island), he entered the Johns Hopkins University as a graduate student of Greek and Latin, where in 1880 he was "scholar" and the following year appointed to a fellowship, which he held for two years. He here received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy on the presentation of a thesis on "Participial Periphrases in Attic Prose," published in the *American Journal of Philology* (iv, 291-308). After next spending a year at Berlin, he was appointed to the chair of English at Dalhousie University, from which office he has now been called to Toronto.

OBITUARY.

ARSÈNE DARMESTETER.

The press on our columns has compelled us to hold over a notice of this distinguished scholar, who passed away in Paris last November.—M. DARMESTETER has long been known as one of the most conspicuous figures in the field of Romance Philology and there are few whom our science could so ill spare. He was cut off in the flower of his age, while engaged upon work of the highest order and of the greatest importance, particularly in the direction of scientific French lexicography. He was but 42 when he died, and was hard at work up to within a few days of his death, being thus true to the record of his well-filled life.

ARSÈNE DARMESTETER was born of a French-Jewish family in Lorraine in 1846. When only six years of age his family removed to Paris, and the lad commenced his education in the *école primaire* of the quarter. His father, a bookbinder by trade, was not wealthy and probably could not have done a great deal for his son, who in his earliest years showed remarkable capacity and unflagging industry. Fortunately, however, his talents and love of study attracted the attention of leading members of the synagogue, and by them his education was taken in hand. He received a training which was apparently more Hebrew than classical in its character, for it was intended that he should ultimately enter the Jewish Priesthood. In 1862, at the age of 16 years, he received his *Baccalauriat-ès-Lettres*, and two years later his licentiate. Fortunately for Romance philology ARSÈNE DARMESTETER did not feel himself called to a rabbinical career. It was, however, studies of Hebrew history and theology that were to give the key-note and trend to his whole after life. His elaborate studies in mediæval Hebrew texts (many of them of the eleventh century), had revealed the existence of numerous French glosses, and to the collection and preparation of these he devoted several years, visiting the leading European libraries and working upon, altogether, some 300 MSS. It is claimed, with what degree of truth it remains to be seen, that M. DARME-

STETER collected an immense amount of lexicographical material and even projected a dictionary of eleventh century French which, in view of the extremely small number of texts of that date, would be of almost incalculable importance to French philology. We await with interest to hear what is to become of this collected material, which it is said, although this is almost certainly exaggerated, amounts to some 20,000 words.

In 1872, at the age of 26 years, M. DARMESTETER was appointed assistant at the *Ecole des Hautes études* under GASTON PARIS, and began more and more to devote himself to French. Between this date and 1877, when he took his doctor's degree, he published several works, notably the 'Traité de la formation des mots composés dans la langue française' in 1875; the 'Deux Elégies du Vatican, textes du XIII^e siècle' etc., in 1874; the 'Phonétique française: la protonique non initiale, non en position,' in 1876. In the same year M. DARMESTETER published in collaboration with M. HATZFELD the well-known and valuable 'Tableau de la langue et de la littérature françaises au XVII^e siècle.' The next year came the 'De Floovante.' M. DARMESTETER doctor's thesis was the noteworthy, indeed epoch-making work: 'De la création actuelle de mots nouveaux dans la langue française,' Paris 1877, and one of its practical results was the definite appointment of its author to the chair of Mediæval French Language and Literature in the Sorbonne. In 1883 appeared the 'Cours de littérature française du moyen-âge et d'histoire de la langue française.' The contributions to the *Revue Critique*, *Romania* and other journals, as well as the smaller publications—such, for instance, as the "Note sur l'histoire des prépositions *en, enz, dedans, dans*," 1885—have always been valuable and never fail to bear the impress of the author's high scholarship and originality. In connection with his Hebrew-French studies mentioned above, M. DARMESTETER published in the first volume of the *Romania*, "Les mots latins dans les textes talmudiques," and in the same volume, p. 146: 'Glosses et glossaires hébreux-français du moyen-âge.' We wait with considerable interest to hear whether anything farther in this direction may be anticipated. In 1887 appeared the wonderfully interesting and suggestive little work: 'La vie des mots étudiée dans leur significations,' a most happy illustration of science, but *real* science, made easy and attractive.

Important as all these works are, they do not form, however, the most important phase of M. DARMESTETER's activity. This has consisted since about 1872 in preparing, in collaboration with M. HATZFELD, the monumental French Dictionary awaited with so much curiosity by all Romance scholars and students. The work is very near completion, and we understand that the death of the distinguished scholar whose loss we all deplore will not necessitate a long delay in the publication.

There is sadness in this sudden cutting-off of a life so full of accomplished endeavor, so promising for future achievement—a promise guaranteed by the entire history of M. DARMESTETER's life as well as by the circumstances attending his death, for he died in harness and his last thoughts were of the great work he might not finish. He will long be remembered: as a scholar, by those who know him through his works; as a scholar and a kindly gentleman, by those who are fortunate enough to have met him personally.

T. MCCABE.

University of Michigan.